

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. An image file apparatus for reading out an image file that has been recorded on a first recording medium and recording this image file on a second recording medium, comprising:

an image file readout unit for reading out an image file that has been recorded on the first recording medium;

- 10 a file-name duplication discrimination unit for determining whether a file name of the image file that has been read out by said image file readout unit and a file name of an image file that has been recorded on the second recording medium are duplicates;

- 15 an image-file recording controller, which is responsive to a determination by said file-name duplication discrimination unit that the file names are duplicates, for changing the file name of the image file that has been read out of the first recording medium and recording this read image file on the second recording medium in such a manner that file names of image files that have been recorded on the second recording medium will not be duplicated; and

- 20 a grouping unit for grouping image files, which have been recorded on the second recording medium by said image-file recording control unit, according to the types of images represented by the image files.

2. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said grouping unit causes a file name corresponding to each

group to be recorded on the second recording medium.

3. An image file apparatus comprising:

an image file readout unit for reading out an image file that has been recorded on a first recording medium;

5 a recording controller for recording the image file, which has been read out by said image file readout unit, on a second recording medium; and

an output unit for outputting an image file being recorded on the second recording medium by said
10 recording controller.

4. The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said output unit is a display device for displaying an image represented by an image file that has been recorded on the second recording medium.

15 5. An image file method in an image file apparatus for reading out an image file that has been recorded on a first recording medium and recording this image file on a second recording medium, comprising the steps of:

reading out an image file that has been recorded on
20 the first recording medium;

determining whether a file name of the image file that has been read out of the first recording medium and a file name of an image file that has been recorded on the second recording medium are duplicates;

25 in response to a determination that the file names are duplicates, changing the file name of the image file that has been read out of the first recording medium and recording this read image file on the second recording

medium in such a manner that file names of image files that have been recorded on the second recording medium will not be duplicated; and

5 grouping image files, which have been recorded on the second recording medium by the image-file recording control unit, according to the types of images represented by the image files.

6. An image file method comprising the steps of:

10 reading out an image file that has been recorded on a first recording medium;

 recording the read image file on a second recording medium; and

 outputting an image file being recorded on the second recording medium.

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